App. F. IX-4

1935.

File N

Previous References

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Letter References.

PRESERVED

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Serial Nos.

Part B for June 1937

SUBJECT.

censorship

Forster

File No. 87 of 193 5

Serial No.

Letter No 76 2/11/5 from the D. S. pointing out the difficulty in which the powers the working of the Board and stating that the practice of permitting the publication of unobjectionable posters may be continued.

1) According to the Amendment Regn V of 1985 a licensee and an owner of a cinematograph shall not exhibit any advertising matter which has not been certified as suitable for publication. So it is essential that every such matter shall be ~~certified~~ presented for certification and certified.

(1) The question is how that certificate shall be made and if it should appear on

has been entered do not
they can verify the cope
to the office copy on the c
with the license
If a small fee were, per
this charged to meet the
expenses on account c
thes
7) If approved the D. M
may be asked to sug
rules on the above lines
Submitted for orders

Sd
15/8/36

8) Draft Rules as directed

Sd
24/7/36

In what stage is the
Govt of India Bill now?

Cl
26/8

as passed in
Council of State in July 1935
was introduced into the
Legislative Assembly on 3
Sep 1935 and referred to
Select committee The

Select committee has not yet
come forward. But there
one member was report
to the committee on 6/8/36
SG
7/9/36

11) under Sec 5(3) of the Cinema
Regulation which was an amendment
introduced in 1935 wherein posters
advertisements etc have to be certify
We adopted a bill which had been
introduced in the Legislative Assembly
in British India in regard to this
amendment. In British India, the
bill has not yet become law, while
our bill has become law. No rule
have yet been issued in regard to
certification of Cinema posters. There
no rules as yet in British India

12) Most of the advertising matter in
regard to ~~[illegible]~~ foreign films comes from
the producers themselves. They are not
certified in British India as there is no
The Cinema houses which exhibit them
here are not responsible for the producers
To produce all the advertising material

Serial No.

every one of the copies will be forwarded to the Boards as well as the cinema house.

(i) What maybe done is for the cinema house which puts up the posters etc to send two copies each to the Board. The Board can certify these two copies, keep one in the office for reference & return the other to the party ~~if any objection~~ while so certifying they can exclude obscene or objectionable posters. If any police officer thinks a particular poster putup is objectionable & has a doubt if it has been certified, he can refer to the originals at the Board, & if the finding is that it is not certified he can take action.

(ii) As regards the fee for certifying posters, as proposed by the I.G.P, the fee for the film itself maybe raised to a small extent.

(iii) The I.G.P proposes that the D.S.P. ~~Commissioner~~ to Controller may be allowed to take action to prevent obscene posters from being exhibited in public as he has been doing hitherto till it is known what action is taken in British India to control the present state without Cert. of posters till action is taken in British India

NOTE—Contn Sheet.

WD 03594—GPB—30,000—18-7-35

Ownership of cinema [illegible]

File No. 87 of 193 (

General and Revenue Secretariat

proprs. of advertisements contain only copies of portions of the actual film ordinarily. When the film has been examined & certified, it is very unlikely that the posters will contain objectionable matter except perhaps in the case of specially suggestive posters which are a departure from the film

Chief Secretary) 19/10

21 SEP 1936

We a reply may be sent to the I.S.P. in the above lines.

(for members) 27/9

OFFICE OF THE [illegible] COUNCIL
[illegible] OCT 1936
No. 1.9.29

TYPING SECTION
7 OCT 1936
GENL & REV. SECTT.

Put with a draft for consideration

Sec

No P 24-15 of 10/10 to I.S.P. regarding that the present practice may continue & calling for draft rules if considered necessary.

6501 S 692/36 P 236 Criminal Forfeiture / Awards

General & Revenue Secretariat. File No. 87 of 1935. [App. F. III–2

erial No.

Subd. with a draft from

Sec 2/4/37 signed by 2.4.

MSR

Issued no Press of 8/4

No C.1.56-36 of 5/6/37 from the S. P. of Police suggesting that the question of forfeiture may be reserved

Subd. for orders if the file may be closed

Sec 10/6/37 may be closed by

IKC 10/6/37

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Tel. Address :
"POLICE"
PHONE No. 298

Legs 87-35-1

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE

When replying please quote No. C.S.6/35

Dated Bangalore, 11th May 19

FROM

F. A. HAMILTON, ESQ., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police in Mysore,
Bangalore.

To

A.V.Ramanathan,Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

With reference to Regulation, V of 1935, amending the Cinematograph Regulation, XII of 1923, with the object of subjecting to censorship. posters and other advertising matters relating to films, I have the honour to state that some difficulties are encountered in giving full effect to the new Law. Under [redacted], all matters containing any pictorial representation require to be certified as suitable for public exhibition or publication. Such advertising matter generally are

i. Printed picture Boards usually exhibited in front of the Cinema Theatres and those carried on Vehicles and Motor Cars for advertisement purposes

ii. Printed Wall Posters

iii. Booklets and Hand bills containing similar pictorial representations

2. Certification implies inspection of the advertising matter and the recording of a certificate that the matter is suitable for exhibition or publication

3. There is generally no difficulty in requiring the Exhibitor of a film to produce all advertisements containing pictorial representations before they are actually published or exhibited; Sub Committee of the Board may examine such advertisements and come to a decision as to whether they are suitable for exhibition but difficulty arises in deciding how to indicate on the pictorial representation the approval of certification by the Board. Without some such indication, the officers charged with the duty of checking and ensuring that uncertified posters are not allowed to be exhibited, will not be able to discern which is certified and which is not. So far as the painted boards are concerned, they are usually new and the signature and seal of the Board may be put on them without difficulty as regards the posters and booklets, however, it should be noted that they are

all printed generally outside the State and are received herewith with the films. If they were printed in the State, it would be easy to introduce the seal or other sign of approval of the Board into the printed matter and print off copies containing such indication. In the case of copies received from outside, that course is obviously not feasible.

4. The fee for certification of films is determined on the length of the film. In the case of pictorial representations, a lump sum will have to be imposed in addition to the fee on films or an enhanced consolidated fee on the films itself may be levied so as to include the fee that may be levied on pictorial advertisements also.

5. In order to ascertain how the difficulty referred to in para 3 above in regard to the recording of the certificate was met with elsewhere, the Bombay and Bengal Boards were addressed. Their replies (copies enclosed) show that posters and pictorial representations are not censored in the manner in which our Regulation contemplates and that the Government of India Bill, on which our Regulation was based and which passed through the Legislative Assembly has not yet passed through the Council of State and is, therefore, not law yet. None of the British Boards, therefore, do any effective censoring of posters as contemplated in the Government of India Bill. If they did, their certificates might have been accepted here just as in the case of films certified by them.

6. It is ascertained that in Bengal, the posters are subjected to the scrutiny of the Inspector of the Board and that this practice is purely voluntary. The Police have always power under the Criminal Law to prevent obscene pictures being exhibited. In Bangalore, the Dist.Superintendent of Police has sometimes taken action to prevent obscene posters from being exhibited in public and this practice may, I think, be continued for sometime to come, till it is definitely known in what stage the Government of India Bill will finally emerge.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

Inspector General of Poli

Letter No.110 C.B.dated the 31st January 1936 from the Secretary, Bengal Board of Censors, Calcutta.

With reference to your letter No.C-56/35-36 dated the 16th January 1936, I have the honour to state that the provisions of the Cinematograph Act have not, as apprehended by you, yet been amended govern the certification of posters. It is understood that a Bill to that effect will be coming up before the ensuing session of the Legislativ Assembly.

In the meantime, in Bengal, it is customary in nearly all cases for producers to submit posters only for censorship by the - Inspectors. This is entirely voluntary.

For the present, this voluntary censorship has not beer extended to hand bills or other pictorial matters.

"COPY"

For Inspector General of Police.

Letter No.12/55 of 36 dated 20th January 36 from the Secretary, Bombay Board of Film Censors, Bombay.

In reply to your letter No.C/56/35-36 dated the 16th January 36 I have the honour to inform you that as yet there is no censorship of cinema posters and other pictorial advertisements in the Bombay Presidency A bill amending the Indian Cinematograph Act to provide for the censorship of these posters and pictorial advertisements was passed by the Legislative Assembly but so far as we know the bill has not yet been passed by the Council of State. At any rate my Board has received no orders so far from Government for such censorship.

"C O P Y"

For Inspector General of Police.

Appendix F G—1]

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

Diary No. of letter replied to.....

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the *193*

Date of issue 10.10.36

Signed by Dr. D.S.R.

List of enclosures.....

Copied by .....

Examined by.....

Section Leg.

File No. 87-35

Serial No. 2

No. P 2415

To

The I G of Police

Sir,

With reference to your letter no C, 56/35 of 4-5-36 re the procedure to adopted in giving effect to Rule V of 1935 re ~~=~~ licensing of firearms powders I am directed state that ~~no objection has been raised~~ ~~by~~ Govt agree that the present practice of procuring obscure ~~explosives~~ powders by the D.C.'s Bangalore from time to time

WD 03601—GPB—30,000—23-9-35

a public, so as to be convinced
that it is known what action
is taken in Dr. India

If however, it is felt
that rules are necessary
for the working of the Resolution
I of 1985 provision may be
made for the Board
any powers vested in
the Board or in the
Chairman for certificate
kept in the office
and the other returned to the
[illegible] any person appears
thinks or particular
position is objectionable
and finds a doubt if it
has been certified the
Case report of the Registrar
in the office of the
Director for certifying
a post may be made
by Chairman the file for
which the
application

G. R. S. App. F. G. 3.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Continuation sheet draft form.)

Rules may be framed on the above lines and I am to request that draft rules may be submitted for consideration if ~~considered~~ necessary.

I have etc

Lest
7.10.

7.08 P.M.

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE

General and Revenue Secretariat

Dated, Bangalore, 8th October 1936

No. P 2415-Ly:87-35-2

From

The *Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.*

To

The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.C.56/35 dated 4th May 1936 regarding the procedure to be adopted in giving effect to Regulation V of 1935 regarding the censoring of cinema posters, I am directed to state that Government agree that the present practice of preventing obscene posters by the District Superintendent of Police, Bangalore, from being exhibited in public may be continued till it is known what action is taken in British India.

If, however, it is felt that rules are necessary for the working of the Regulation V of 1935 provisions may be made for two copies of every poster being presented to the Board, one of which will after certification be kept in the office and the other returned to the party. If any police officer thinks a particular poster is objectionable and feels a doubt if it has been certified he can refer to the original in the office of the Board. The fee for certifying a poster may be imposed by raising the fee for certifying the film to a small extent.

Rules may be framed on the above lines and I am to request that draft rules may be suggested for consideration of Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

for Chief Secretary to Government.

Tel. Address:
"POLICE"
PHONE No. 298.

When replying please quote
No. C.-1-56-36

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE.

Dated Bangalore, 5TH JUNE *1937*

FROM

F. A. HAMILTON, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police in Mysore,
Bangalore.

CHIEF SECRETARY. 8. JUN 19 GOVT. OF MYSORE

To

B. T. KESAVAIENGAR, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

SIR,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No.P. 2415.Legis.87-35-2, dated the 8th/10th October 1936 on the above subject, I have the honour to state that for the reasons already given in my letter No.C.1-56-35 of 11th May 1936, the preparation of draft rules are beset with difficulties. Besides, the question of censoring posters has not risen in any appreciable form. I, therefore, suggest that the question of framing rules in this behalf may be deferred. However, the District Superintendent of Police, Bangalore City, has been requested to prevent the exhibition of obscene posters.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE.